

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/622,274 Confirmation No. 4206
Inventor : Michelle KLIPPEN
Filed : July 17, 2003
TC/AU : 3761
Examiner : REICHLE, Karin M.

Docket No. : 1032.004
Customer No. : 36790

February 7, 2006

Via EFS-Web

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

A restriction requirement was set forth in the Office Action mailed on January 9, 2006. Applicant timely files this in response thereto. No fees are believed to be due.

In the Office Action of January 9, 2006, the requirement is set forth that Applicant restrict the present application to one of the following Inventions:

- I. Claims 23-34 and 38-42 drawn to method of compressing and packaging, classified in class 53, subclass 434.
- II. Claims 35-37 and 43-44, drawn to a packaged absorbent article, classified in class 604, subclass 385.02.

According to the Office Action, the inventions are related as product and product-by-process claims.

In response, Applicant elects Invention I and claims 23-34 and 38-42 for examination in the present application. Furthermore, Applicant submits and respectfully requests that any claim to Invention II be rejoined and similarly allowed if such withdrawn claim is found to depend from an allowed independent or allowed intervening claim, in accordance with the practice set forth in MPEP § 821.04(b).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned if any further action is deemed necessary by the Examiner in order to gain allowance of the present application, and if such further action may be accomplished through an Examiner's amendment or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,
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